GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3807
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2017
MCRZ
Banerjee Shri Kalyan

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to develop India's almost 7500 km long coastal lines towards promoting tourism and the real estate sector;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has received the draft Marine and Coastal Regulation Zone (MCRZ) proposal 2017 for wider considerations therefor; and
(d) if so, the proposals and suggestions from the Tourism, Shipping and Housing and Urban Affairs Ministries thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Doesn't arise.

(c) & (d) A number of suggestions have been received from various coastal states/UTs and stakeholders for review of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011. These have been examined by a committee headed by Dr. Shailesh Nayak and the Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change for consideration. The views of all the Stakeholders viz., coastal States/UTs and concerned ministries have also been obtained on the recommendations of the report.

In June 2014, a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Ministry of Earth Sciences, was constituted to suggest modifications in the CRZ notification - 2011 considering issues raised by states and other ministries such as Tourism, Shipping and Housing and Urban Affairs. In January 2015, a draft proposal of Marine Coastal Regulation Zone (MCRZ) was submitted with a view to ensure livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities living in the coastal areas for conservation and protection of coastal stretches, the offshore islands, its unique environment and its marine area and to promote development through sustainable manner, based on scientific principles. The MRCZ now extends from the 500 m High Tide Line of the coast of the country upto territorial water limits 12 nautical miles into the sea. The MRCZ notification proposes modifications to relax the existing norms by allowing temporary tourism facilities in ecologically sensitive areas in regulated coastal zones and reducing distance from the high tide line in rural areas for housing and basic infrastructure for local inhabitants. As per the draft, temporary tourism facilities will be allowed in Ecologically Sensitive Areas (MCRZ I) including basic infrastructure for local inhabitants within 50 meters from the High Tide Line in rural areas. It empowers the State and Union Territory Governments for developmental activities including construction of STPs, link Road of public interests in their respective MCRZ areas.